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PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: 020375-032410US

Attn: Mail Stop Missing Parts
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

On March 22, 2004

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: Aurora Lowell
Aurora Lowell

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Charles Whitaker, et al.

Application No.: 10/675,929

Filed: September 29, 2003

For: SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR
VERIFYING MEDICAL INSURANCE
COVERAGE

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Art Unit: 3629

PETITION UNDER 37 CFR §1.47(a)

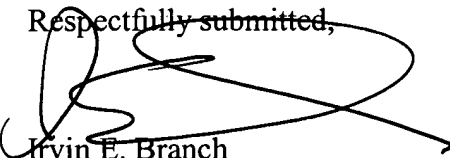
Attn: Mail Stop Missing Parts
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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicants petition to file the above-referenced application under 37 CFR §1.47(a). A signed declaration is being provided from three of the four inventors. The first inventor, Charles Whitaker, refuses to execute a declaration. Thus, this application is made by the other joint inventors on behalf of the non-signing inventor, Mr. Whitaker. A Declaration of Irvin E. Branch, which includes the last known address of Mr. Whitaker, is provided herewith in support of this Petition.

The commissioner is authorized to charge the fee set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17(i) (\$130.00) to the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 20-1430. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to the above deposit account. This petition is submitted in triplicate.

Respectfully submitted,



Irvin E. Branch
Reg. No. 42,358

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, 8th Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: 303-571-4000
Fax: 303-571-4321
GB:cmb

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TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: Aurora Lowell
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Charles Whitaker, *et al.*

Application No.: 10/675,929

Filed: September 29, 2003

For: SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR
VERIFYING MEDICAL INSURANCE
COVERAGE

Examiner: Unassigned

Art Unit: 3629

DECLARATION OF IRVIN E. BRANCH
IN SUPPORT OF PETITION UNDER 37
C.F.R. §1.47(a)

Attn: Mail Stop Missing Parts
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I, Irvin E. Branch, am an attorney at Townsend and Townsend and Crew LLP ("TTC"), representing First Data Corporation ("First Data") in the above-referenced patent application. I have made diligent efforts to obtain a signed declaration from Charles Whitaker, an inventor (previously an employee of First Data) for the above-referenced case. Mr. Whitaker's last known address is 5104 N. 139th Street, Omaha, NE 68164.

On September 29, 2003, I filed the above-referenced application.

On December 30, 2003, we received the Notice to File Missing Parts from the U.S. Patent Office (mailed on December 24, 2003).

I prepared an Inventor Declaration and Inventor Assignment for execution by each inventor and mailed the documents, along with a copy of the application as filed, to Charles

Whitaker at his last known address on January 8, 2004. A copy of the letter is attached as Exhibit A.

On February 27, 2004 (at my direction) another letter was sent to Mr. Whitaker's last known address forwarding another Inventor Declaration and Inventor Assignment. A copy of this letter is attached as Exhibit B.

I made two attempts to contact Mr. Whitaker via telephone. A message I left was not returned. Others called at my direction and also left messages that were not returned.

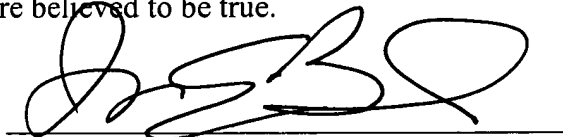
Bradley Winking, Scott Dunn and Jim Jackson, joint inventors, executed and returned their Inventor Declarations and Inventor Assignments.

As of this date, we have not received a signed Declaration from Charles Whitaker.

The undersigned, being hereby warned that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the patent application or any patent resulting therefrom, declare that I am authorized to execute this instrument on behalf of applicants; all statements made of my own knowledge are true; and all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true.

Date:

3/22/04



Irvin E. Branch
Reg. No. 42,358

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, 8th Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: 303-571-4000
Fax: 303-571-4321
GB:arl

EXHIBIT A

TOWNSEND
and
TOWNSEND
and
CREW
LLP

San Francisco, California
Tel 415 576-0200

Palo Alto, California
Tel 650 326-2400

Walnut Creek, California
Tel 925 472-5000

Seattle, Washington
Tel 206 467-9600

Denver

1200 Seventeenth Street
Suite 2700
Denver
Colorado 80202-5827
Tel 303 571-4000
Fax 303 571-4321

January 8, 2004

Charles Whitaker	Bradley Winking	Scott Dunn	Jim Jackson
5104 N. 139th Street	13973 Ames Avenue	6521 S. 178th Street	9420 Northwest 82nd
Omaha, NE 68164	Omaha, NE 68164	Omaha, NE 68135	Tamarac, FL 33321

Re: Utility Patent Application
For: SYSTEM AND METHODS FOR VERIFYING MEDICAL INSURANCE COVERAGE
Inventor: Charles Whitaker, et al.
Application No.: 10/675,929
Filing Date: September 29, 2003
Our File No.: 020375-032410US

Gentlemen:

We now have the application number (10/675,929) and official filing date (September 29, 2003) for your above-referenced patent application. We have received the Official Filing Receipt and Notice to File Missing Parts. Thus, enclosed are the formal papers that we will need to file with the U.S. Patent Office before the due date of **February 24, 2004**. A copy of the application as filed is also enclosed.

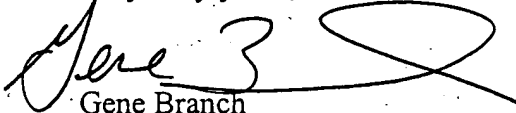
Please review (and make any necessary corrections), sign and date the following documents. If you make any changes, please initial and date each change.

1. *Assignment, and*
2. *Declaration.*

We request your help in determining what references should be included in an Information Disclosure Statement for the above-referenced patent application. The attached DUTY OF DISCLOSURE outlines the disclosure responsibilities of both client and attorney.

If all is in order, please return the executed documents to us for filing in the return envelope provided. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (303) 571-4000.

Very truly yours,


Gene Branch

GB/arl
Enclosures
cc: Ken Algiene
60114845 v1

EXHIBIT B



FIRST DATA CORPORATION
12500 EAST BELFORD AVENUE
M21A2
ENGLEWOOD, CO 80112
www.firstdata.com

February 27, 2004

Via First Class: Last Known Address

Charles Whitaker
5104 N. 139th St.
Omaha, NE 68164

Re: Patent documents for signature for:
Systems and Methods for Verifying Medical Insurance Coverage

Dear Charles:

Further to the letter dated January 8, 2004 sent by Townsend Townsend & Crew LLP, please find enclosed another copy of an Inventor Declaration and Inventor Assignment, as well as a copy of the application as filed with the United States Patent Office.

In order to complete the patent filing process, we must submit an executed Inventor Declaration and an Assignment. These are standard legal documents and required of all First Data Corporation inventors.

I am going to walk you through each of the documents.

Document One: Assignment of Patent Application: *Systems and Methods for Verifying Medical Insurance Coverage*

Please Sign and Date where indicated. This assignment indicates that you were an inventor and as you created this invention at the time of employment, you are now assigning your rights to First Data Corporation as is specified in your employee Code of Conduct.

Document Two: Inventor Declaration: *Systems and Methods for Verifying Medical Insurance Coverage*

Please Sign and Date where indicated. This document states that you are a true inventor of the ideas presented in this application.

A copy of the application as filed is also enclosed. Kindly sign and date and return the documents in the enclosed envelope at your earliest convenience.

Very truly yours,

Allison Frederick
Prosecution Paralegal for
Ken Algiene

Enclosures